



AP photo

A popular snowmobile trail in the south area of Wasatch Mountain State Park in Midway is a site proposed for the 2002 Olympic cross-country skiing events.

## Proposed Olympic venue lies partly in state park

*Harold 2-11-97*

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THE BOOK  
OF PHRASES

THE BOOK  
OF PHRASES

HOME SHOPPING NETWORK

By Johnny Hart



Mail: arnjan@aol.com

J.C.



# Wasatch County Site Support

## Site Ranks Number One In Environmental Report

by Dave Anderton  
Editor Dave

8-6-97

Wasatch County's Cross Country/Biathlon site, Soldier Hollow, has received endorsements from both Utah and Wasatch Counties.

In a letter addressed to the Salt Lake Olympic Organizing Committee, Utah County Commissioners express solid support for Wasatch County's efforts to be chosen for the Nordic venue.

"We wish to lend our full support to your consideration of the Wasatch State Park site," reads the letter. "We feel that this site has much to offer."

Similarly, Summit County Commissioners, Sheldon Richins, Eric Schifferli and James Soter all expressed "enthusiastic support" in a letter addressed to Frank Joklik,

SLOC's interest in everything of this site. Soldier Hollow is a range hold these events," relates the commissioners.

"Holding these two events at Wasatch County's proposed site will give our Olympic visitors an opportunity to see more of this beautiful state and the amenities offered. It will allow television crews to move their equipment just down the road instead of moving it to another remote area. It will bring Olympic revenues to a county off the Wasatch Front or Interstates 80 and 15."

Wasatch County Commissioner LaRen Provost is pleased with the endorsements, "especially Utah County's support," said smilingly. "Our neighbors are behind us."

Additionally, the Park City Chamber of Commerce is championing Soldier Hollow as a "long-

Crooked Creek was diverted to power the mill. It was owned by William M. Wall and James Adams. From the time the settlers entered the valley in 1859 until 1862, they used hand-hewn timber for their furniture and building needs. The timber from the sawmill provided smooth lumber for the settlers to build homes, split shingles, and craft their furniture.

On the morning of July 24, Mr. Sweat erected a sign on this site to recognize a significant event in our valley's history. It is located above the second crossing in Center Creek Canyon. Arrows point to the sawmill location, the water ditch, and cabin where the workers were lodged. On the mountain to the

Soldier Hollow site requires the least clear-cutting to construct trails and building and represents the least damage and disruption to habitat."

The site is also closer to Salt Lake City and the Athletes' Village. "Based on its proximity and the least disruption to high quality habitat, the site has been deemed the more suitable by the environmental review team."

With North Fork Park out of the running—the Weber County Commission withdrew its application as a possible contender last Wednesday—two sites, Sherwood Hills (a site along U.S. 89 near Logan) and Wasatch Mountain State Park are both vying for final selection.

Robyn Pearson, Executive

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# Wasatch Mtn. State Park to get final Games venue

Leavitt says Olympics are on track, Page B2.

By Lisa Riley Roche  
Deseret News staff writer

10-9-97

The last competition site chosen for the 2002 Winter Games, the cross-country and biathlon venues, will be located at Wasatch Mountain State Park near Midway.

A vote was scheduled to be taken on the site Thursday by the Salt Lake Organizing Committee board of trustees, but there was little doubt the Summit County site would be chosen.

"It's a great opportunity for us. It's a beautiful venue. The natural terrain is excellent," said Dave Johnson, SLOC vice president of Games. Johnson recommended the site to the board.

The choice was between the state park and a private resort near Logan, Sherwood Hills. Other sites, including the organizing committee's original choice, Mountain Dell Golf Course off I-80, had been ruled out.

Johnson said the Wasatch Mountain State Park site will be accepted Thursday pending the successful negotiation of a contract with the state. "There are not any issues that have not been resolved," Johnson said.

That's except for the amount of money the organizing committee will put up for what will be a state project. The current organizing committee budget set aside \$17.5 million for the venue.

But Johnson said the organizing committee will not build a second Olympic Village for cross-country and biathlon competitors at the site, something officials of those sports wanted.

Their reasoning was that the state park is too far away from athletes housing planned for the University of Utah. Sherwood Hills was even farther, which hurt the resort's chances.

Johnson said the organizing committee will arrange for hotel rooms for the 700 or so athletes and officials who'll use the venue for training and competition during the Olympics.

But security and other amenities available at the Olympic Village planned at Fort Douglas won't be

## VENUES

Continued from A1

available. Officials from both the International Ski Federation and the International Biathlon Union have agreed to the plan.

Construction is expected to start on the venue next spring. It's the last venue to be built for the Olympics, although much work remains at the other competition sites.

The ski racing courses and shooting ranges will be built by the state, just as the Utah Winter Sports Park's ski jumps and bobsled and luge track, and the Oquirrh Park Fitness Center's speed-skating oval were.

The state will continue to own

and operate the facilities after the Olympics. They will be used for recreation as well as Olympic-caliber training and competitions.

On hearing Thursday's news, local residents expressed mixed feelings.

"I'm excited for my kids — they get an Olympic event in their back yards," said Midway real estate agent Deise Peck. "But I'm going to miss my nice, quiet bike rides."

Peck said an ongoing development born in and around the small town will only be fueled by the proximity of the Games site.

"We're not just going to be a quiet corner of the earth anymore," said Tony Kohler, a Wasatch County planner who said Midway's overnight recognition as an Olympic venue may be both blessing and curse.

Johny Wetsel, captain of the

sheriff's search-and-rescue team, predicted profound impacts on public services.

"There's not another more beautiful place to have it," Wetsel said, though he was quick to add that the area's already lofty real estate prices might go up even farther and that the state may be called upon to help with public amenities.

Wasatch County's search-and-rescue unit already is overburdened by year-round incidents in which visitors get lost on snowmobiling trips or are injured or killed in accidents on three local reservoirs.

The decision on the Midway site came at the first meeting since new Olympic leaders were named, board chairman Bob Garff and chief executive officer Frank Joklik.



Joklik had been chairman but stepped in to take over running the day-to-day operations of the organizing committee after Tom Welch resigned. Welch later

pleaded no contest to a charge of spouse abuse.

At the meeting, trustees also were expected to change the rules so Joklik could vote as president and chief executive officer. The change was intended to stress that he continues to be a member of the board in his new role.

The Salt Lake City Council hates the idea of Joklik having a vote.

"It muddies the separation between the administrative function and the policymaking function," said council Chairwoman Deeda Seed.

The council is already in a foul mood, dealing with what they perceive as a closed channel of communication with Mayor Deedee Corradini regarding the Olympics. The mayor has sanctioned the by-laws change but did not consult with the council or even notify it before doing so.

"I'm doubtful as to our relationship with the mayor on the

Olympics," Seed said. "This was agreed to without any consultation with us, and it's a fairly significant change."

Corradini did not return phone calls seeking comment.

Thursday, trustees were told that Seiko is the latest sponsor to sign up for the 2002 Winter Games. The company will supply timing equipment to the Games as well as sell licensed products such as watches.

The deal is worth as much as \$50

million to the organizing committee and the U.S. Olympic Committee, which jointly sell all national corporate sponsorships.

Seiko provided the first-ever quartz timing device as the official timer of the 1964 Summer Games in Tokyo. Another company, Swatch, provided similar services to last summer's Olympics in Atlanta.

**Deseret News staff writers Karl Cates and Alan Edwards contributed to this report.**



# Wasatch County State Park chosen for 3 Olympic events

By KRISTEN MOULTON  
The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The Wasatch Mountain State Park near Midway was picked Thursday as the site where 520 biathlon, cross-country and nordic athletes will compete during the 2002 Winter Games, the last of the venues to be decided.

The Salt Lake Organizing Committee unanimously agreed to the Soldier Hollow area of the park, 35 miles east of Salt Lake City. Next week, ski experts will begin designing up to 14 miles of trails with Mount Timpanogos as a backdrop.

"We're ecstatic," said Robyn Pearson, Wasatch County's economic development director. "This is a great day for our area. To be part of the world-wide Olympics is a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

The park, less than five miles from the county seat of Heber City, was chosen over the Sherwood Hills resort between Logan and Brigham City. That site was named as the alternate should anything arise preventing the use of Soldier Hollow.

During the Olympic bid process, Salt Lake planned to use Mountain Dell Golf Course just outside the city. That site was ruled out when it became clear the site couldn't keep its snow, had mild temperatures and would suffer the pollution from the nearby interstate free-

10-10-97



SALT LAKE 2002



- Governor asks Utahns to remember pioneer spirit and to support the 2002 Olympics/D4
- Congressman pushing for override to President Clinton's veto of Olympic housing/A4

way.

Eleven other sites were considered and the candidates narrowed to Soldier Hollow and Sherwood Hills earlier this year.

Johnson said Soldier Hollow was a clear winner from environmental and sporting points of view. Although Sherwood Hills was ranked slightly better for transportation — it's next to a major U.S. highway — it was farther from the Olympic Village and sports federations and Utah skiers liked Soldier Hollow better.

Soldier Hollow will be the busiest of the Olympic venues, said John Aalberg, the SLOC cross-country and biathlon

## OLYMPICS

Continued from A1

director.

It will have 21 medal events over the 16 days of the Games, with all cross country and biathlon events and half of the Nordic combined events. A stadium for 20,000 spectators is planned.

The sports federations had urged organizers to build a satellite Olympic Village at Soldier Hollow, but instead SLOC is considering putting athletes in hotel rooms near the venue. Transportation would be provided between the competition venue, hotels and the Olympic Village at the University of Utah in Salt Lake.

The committee will contract with the Utah Department of Parks and Recreation to develop the venue, and the trails and shooting ranges will remain after the Games.

See OLYMPICS, A4



## The World Is Coming Here

"I love snow," says Luke Bodensteiner in his book *Endless Winter*. "I love mountain air and I love standing atop the world. I love being able to go pretty much anywhere I want to, using my own power. I love getting to places where other people don't venture...I love being a cross country skier."

Bodensteiner, a Heber City resident as well as a two-time Olympian who had the top U.S. finish in the 30k at both the Albertville and Lillehammer games, may soon find a new generation of athletes looking up at him as their example—perhaps a generation right here in Heber Valley.

Last Thursday's big news announcing Wasatch Mountain State Park as host of the cross-country skiing and biathlon venue is still settling on the minds of most people. Although many anticipated the selection, few realize just how this event will change the valley forever for the better. In just a few short years, the Soldier

Hollow site will become the second cross-country/biathlon Olympic training center in the United States, sharing its unique distinction with only Lake Placid, New York—the site of the Winter Olympic Games in 1980 and 1932.

Many participants spent countless hours preparing, negotiating, and proving to others that the Wasatch site was the right one. From Courtland Nelson (director of Parks and Recreation) and McKay Edwards (consultant) to Robyn Pearson (county economic director) and our elected officials who supported the effort from the beginning (including the citizens of the valley who gave the idea a warm response), the process was a success.

Now the real work begins. Road improvements, new infrastructure, water concerns and lodging preparations are just a sampling of beginning preparations. But when completed, this site will become Heber Valley's shining hallmark providing a legacy well beyond 2002.



# Heber Valley N

## Awarding of Cross-Country, Biathlon Venue Creates Local Excitement

BY DAVE ANDERTON  
Wave Editor

After nearly nine months of planning and organizing, Soldier Hollow, at Wasatch Mountain State Park, was unanimously chosen as the site for the cross-country, Nordic combined and biathlon events for the Olympic Winter Games of 2002. The

announcement came by the board of trustees of the Organizing Committee.

"I have to confess I never doubted that we said Fran Anderson, of Commerce directed the world on this place."

Final selection was sites, Soldier Hollow near Logan. But So early praise after cross-country Hermod Bjorkstol and adviser Janez Vodica



The Soldier Hollow Nordic venue, with Mt. Timpanogos in the background. The 2,000 acre area is laced with trails.

of Parks and Recreation. "Partnerships are always more complex. Because the park is so interweaved with the city and so interweaved with the county you have to consider all of those needs." Nelson believes the early cooperation of all the entities involved helped to sell the site to SLOC. "We all knew where we were going."

According to SLOC officials, the cross-country, biathlon venue will be the most utilized area during the games, hosting 21 medal events and 520 athletes using the venue every day. Approximately 20,000 spectators are expected to visit the location daily during the games.

Approximately 11-14 miles of ski course trails are expected to be installed as well as a shooting range of 30 lanes, an internal road system, parking lots, a competition manage-

agreed that the possible for the commitments to the site after 2002. SLOC is able for all expected temporary facilities.

Jeffrey Wick and high school. "The 2002 Olympic Winter Games at Wasatch Mountain State Park are going to look like a vision. These mountains shared in an enormous way with the Olympics. The top seven ski resorts should be shared. It's the most beautiful range I've seen and I have hiked all of them. As a resident of Midvale, I'm happier."





# Olympic Venue Coming

Continued From Page 1A

making decisions," said Courtland Nelson, director of Utah Division of Parks and Recreation. "Partnerships are always more complex. Because the park is so interweaved with the city and so interweaved with the county you have to consider all of those needs." Nelson believes the early cooperation of all the entities involved helped to sell the site to SLOC. "We all knew where we were going."

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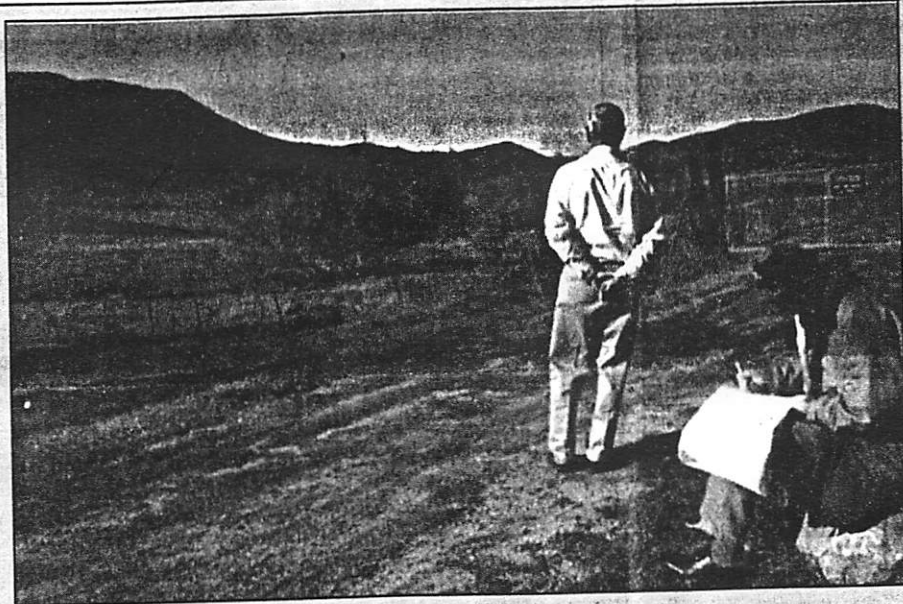
ment building and snowmaking system. Because the venue will be on state lands, SLOC and the Division of Natural Resources have agreed that the state will be responsible for the cost of any enhancements to the site that would be used after 2002. SLOC will be responsible for all expenses associated with temporary facilities.

Jeffrey Wickstrom, filmmaker and high school instructor said, "The 2002 Olympics venue at Wasatch Mountain State Park is going to look fabulous on television. These mountains should be shared in an environmentally correct way with the world. I can't think of a better way to do that than the Olympics. This back side of the top seven ski resorts in America should be shared with the world. It's the most beautiful mountain range I've seen in North America and I have hiked and climbed a lot of them. As a new two-month old resident of Midway I couldn't be happier."

15 Oct 1997







### **Design Work Started At Soldier Hollow**

Robyn Pearson, Wasatch County Economic Director, and Hermod Bjorkstol (right), International Ski Federation course designer, review plans for ski courses at Soldier Hollow, site of the cross-country, Nordic combined and biathlon events for the Olympic Winter Games of 2002. Bjorkstol, from Norway, will be designing the venue's cross-country trails. He will be joined by Janez Vodicar, biathlon designer.

10-22-97



## What's Happening...

5 NOV 1997

Parks and Recreation  
Board To Discuss

Soldier Hollow 5 NOV  
1997

The Board of Utah State Parks and Recreation will meet Thursday, November 6 and Friday, November 7 to discuss a variety of park issues including planning and development issues at the Soldier Hollow Olympic site at Wasatch Mountain State Park.

At 7:00 p.m. on November 6, the board will meet at the Orem City Center located at 56 North State Street in Orem. Salt Lake Olympic Committee Games Coordinator, Jon Alberg, will join a discussion on the biathlon and cross-country site with representatives from Wasatch County Economic Development and McKay Consulting Group, and Wasatch Mountain State Park Manager Marty Van Roosendaal.

Public comment is encouraged and appreciated.

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**Come Ye *Thankful Teachers* Come:  
To 6th Ward  
In Service**

Date & Hour: 16 Nov 1997 @ 7 pm for 1 hr.

Place: Heber 1st, 6th, 9th Ward Chapel

Room: Primary Assembly Room--none other  
available.

**Program: Pending by Young Men**

**Your Bishopric &  
SS Presidency**



# Heber Valley greets 2002 Olympic venue with mixed emotions

8-Nov-1997

By JOSEPHINE ZIMMERMAN  
The Daily Herald

OREM — The Soldier Hollow Olympic site ought to offer cross country ski spectators an unforgettable experience, an Olympic official and former nordic skier claims.

But several residents of the Heber Valley said they take a dim view of all the headaches that will accompany the skiers. They said they're concerned about where the water for snowmaking and culinary purposes will come from and how sewer service and traffic will be handled.

"I feel people are coming to my home I haven't invited," one woman declared at a meeting of the State Parks and Recreation board held Thursday night in Orem.

Jon Alberg is games coordinator for the Salt Lake Olympic Committee. He's also a native



of Norway and a former Olympics cross-country athlete. He said the site at Wasatch Mountain State Park will enable spectators to see more than three-fourths of each race. "Normally they see the participants, then the athletes disappear on the course, then come back," he said.

Heber Valley will host two and a half Olympic events,

See OLYMPICS, A6

## 8 Nov 1997 OLYMPICS

Continued from A1

Alberg explained. They include the cross country events, which will feature the best endurance athletes in the world; the biathlon, which involves skiing and shooting; and the combined nordic, which involves cross-country skiing and jumping.

Alberg was a member of the selection committee that evaluated 11 sites on criteria including weather conditions, topography, altitude and environmental concerns.

Courtland Nelson, State Parks and Recreation director, said the snowmaking water will come from Snake Creek and agreements are being worked out with Heber City, Charleston and Midway for sewer and water service. He also emphasized that the athletes will be shuttled to the venue from the Olympic Village in Salt Lake City.

Still, not everyone is convinced that traffic problems will disappear. "I can see a lot of buses going on small roads into areas that are not developed," one resident declared.

Nelson said a transportation plan will be laid out when public meetings are conducted in Heber City.

Heber City will become the transportation hub for people traveling to and from Salt Lake City and the other Olympic sites, he said. "UDOT has told us that development of the roads will have a higher priority."

### Plans in place

Fran Anderson of the Heber



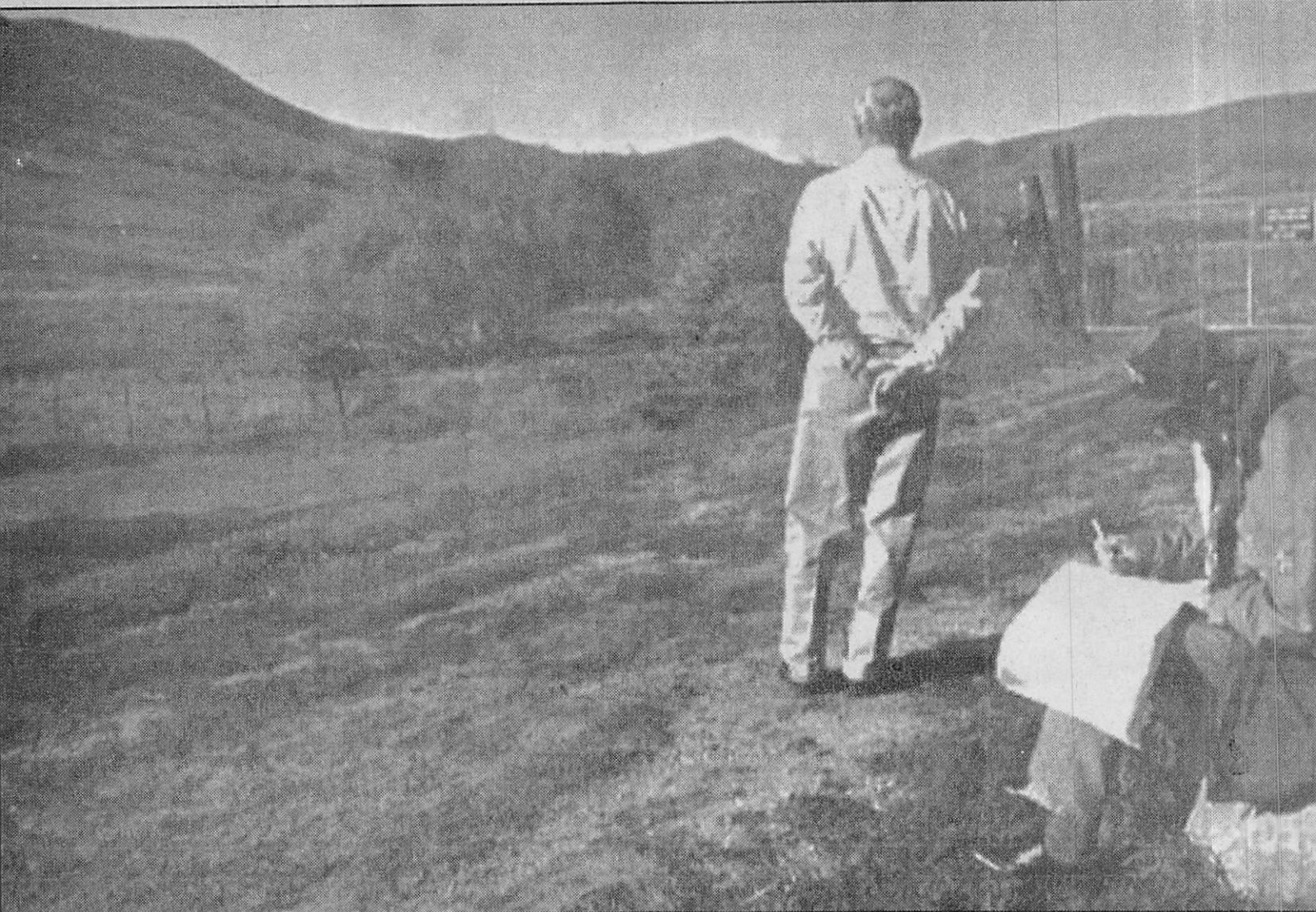
Valley Chamber of Commerce emphasized that the plans for development of infrastructure for the games have been in place for years. "We are just moving them ahead three or four years. All the mayors and water companies are in this together. Tourism is part of our strategic plan for the valley that has been in place for two years. The valley has so much to offer," he said.

Alberg told the group that the site should have around 5,000 seats, "and they will fill up fast." Officials will come from out of state, and close to 100 volunteers will be needed. Twenty competitions are planned, as well as a 10K race and a 50K race.

Marty Van Roosendaal, Wasatch State Park director, emphasized that the venture is a partnership that involves the SLOC, the State Parks and Recreation Department, Heber City, Charleston, Midway and the water companies.



# A Review For 1997's Year



## Olympics Come To Mnt. State Pa

Robyn Pearson can only imagine what the Soldier Hollow Olympic Venue Site will look like by 2002. While he ponders, design plans for the site are already underway for the future cross-country ski trails to criss-cross the slopes.

12-24-97



# ur In Sports

This Year's Top Sporting Story, Even Top News Story, Would Arguably Have To Be October 9, 1997, The Announcement Of Wasatch Hosting An Olympic Venue...

Of all the stories that evolved this year none has had, nor will have in years to come, more of an impact than the process that culminated in Wasatch Mountain State Park receiving the Olympic Cross-Country, Biathlon and Nordic Combined Venues.

The impact of the Olympics will be at it's height just leading up to the 2002 games. But the impact has not started there, nor will it end there. The impact began this year. The team work required to put together the bid for the selection committee was the key to getting the bid. Members of the selection committee were impressed with the amount of cooperation and support that the various county and city governments gave each other in creating the proposal.

That team work is what will be needed as the Olympics begin to loom over the county like Timp's shadow in the setting sun. The way the county will control the growth and make the improvements needed to bring the world to the valley will require that same type of teamwork.

For the betterment or demise of what we know, or have known, things will change. Those changes and how Wasatch County handles them make this not only a strong candidate for the Sporting Story of the year, but also the Story of the year.

We can only wait to see if in the Wasatch Wave on the last edition of the year 2002 we will be able to look back at the Olympics held in Utah that year and say how well we did in representing ourselves to the world during that three week period when all eyes are turned and tuned to Wasatch County.

## outh Summit

face the defending 2A state champions. The Wasps had a good meet Nevada.

At 215 Wasatch pinned his man the six points put -21.

## Jr. Jazz

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# Wasatch Wave Progress Section

A Supplement to the Wasatch Wave

## 1997 Business in Review

### New Resorts and an Olympic Venue

by Dave Anderton

Wasatch County is on the eve of the largest building project ever to hit the region in its entire 139 year history—the luxury resorts.

Deer Crest, Elkhorn, Staghorn, The Aspens, and Bonanza Mountain, the list is just beginning. Each resort boasting high-end homes, condos, conference centers, hotels and golf courses.

These multi-million dollar resorts represent a new era of growth for Wasatch County that will likely change the very fabric of Wasatch's once rural nature.

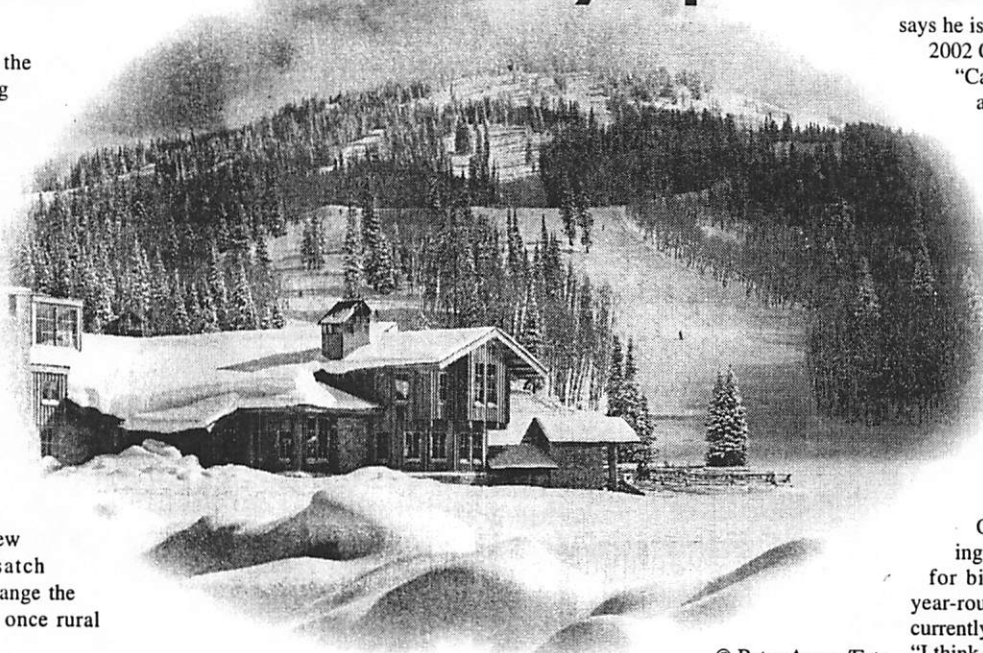
"The simpler, quieter lifestyle will be severely impacted in Heber Valley," foreshadows Wasatch County Planner Robert Mathis.

From the time the Central Utah Project envisioned a reservoir between Summit and Wasatch counties for the purpose of maintaining a full-water capacity at Deer Creek, development was only a matter of time. Even during the earliest planning stages of the reservoir, four out of ten residents of Wasatch County expressed opposition to the growth the dam would bring.

Nineteen years later, since that first opposition, more than twenty different land areas are positioned for growth.

To accommodate the rapid growth, Wasatch County developed the Jordanelle master plan.

"It was devised because a group of land owners said they wanted to develop their land," said Sharon Anderson, Wasatch County's assistant director of planning. The study encompasses slope analysis, water availability, drainage, wetland studies, wildlife, traffic studies and even ordinances restricting what kind of light bulbs are permissible for night-time lighting. The plan has been worked on



© Peter Aaron/Esto

New resort homes, like the one pictured above, may soon become commonplace in Wasatch County.

since 1995 and was recently adopted by the county.

"If there is no master plan things tend to get built as they happen, like a business [built] next to a farm. If you have a plan, especially one created by the county, things are going to be looked at with a more objective eye. You end up with a much nicer finished product," says Atkinson. That foresight will be more appreciated after build-out occurs according to Atkinson.

Besides the Jordanelle resorts, Wasatch County is poised to host the world in the 2002 Winter Olympics. The decision to award the cross-country, biathlon, and Nordic combined venues to Soldier Hollow will continue the intense attention already focused on Heber Valley. "The back side of the Wasatch is now an Olympic park," said McKay Edwards, a key figure in orchestrating Soldier Hollow's victory. "This will be the skiing center of the known universe."

Bill Spencer, of the U.S. Biathlon Association and International Biathlon Union, the national governing bodies for the sport in the nation and world,

says he is interested in using the site after the 2002 Olympics.

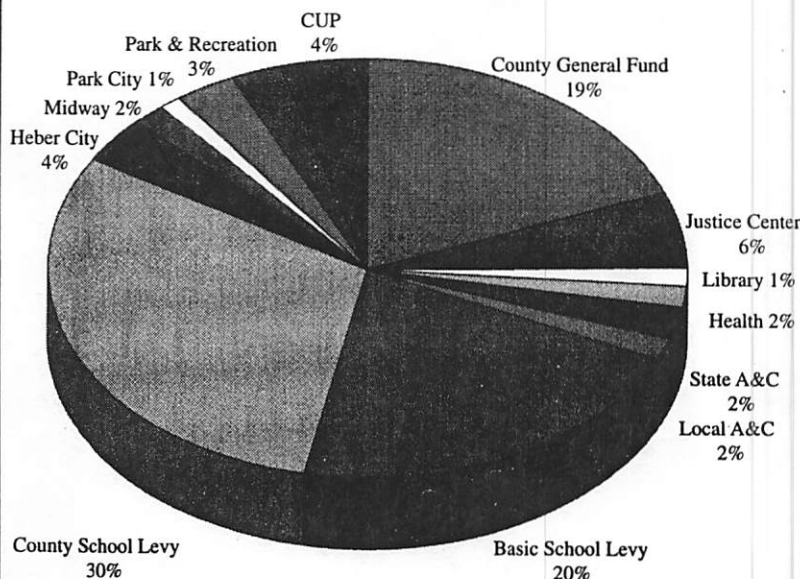
"Canmore, Canada, [near Alberta] has a cross-country site, 90 minutes by plane," he says. "Having this site and Canmore connected after the games, for World Cup or World Championships is a big plus for the International Union and U.S. Biathlon. Having the site year-round will help the U.S. athletes who are training and trying to reach the heights of international competition."

When completed, Soldier Hollow will be second only to Lake Placid, New York, in hosting World Cup Championships as well as Olympic events. Talk is even focusing on constructing a paved roller loop for biathlon contestants, allowing for year-round training. Lake Placid does not currently have a paved track.

"I think it will help the sport greatly," hopes Spencer, referring to a paved track at Soldier Hollow.

### Wasatch County 1997 Property Tax Breakdown

(Charleston, Wallsburg, Charleston Water, Midway Sanitation, Park City Fire, Soldier Summit >1%)  
(Based on total tax charge for each unit)



A look at where your county taxes are spent. Note: 50% goes to school funding.